

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MARTIN 00396 151828Z

43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SY-04 SS-15 SAM-01 NSC-05 /054 W

----- 123594

P R 151725Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

TO SECSTATE PRIORITY 1713

INFO COMCARIBSEAFRON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MARTINIQUE 0396

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, B, FR, US

SUBJECT: BIO REPORTS ON LOCAL FRENCH AND MARTINIQUEAN OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 244162

FOLLOWING ARE BIO SKETCHES ON MARTINIQUEAN AND LOCAL FRENCH OFFICIALS REQUESTED IN REFTEL. ACCORDING TO CURRENT GOF PLANS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT, PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER WILL COME INTO CONTACT WITH LOCAL FRENCH OFFICIALS OR MARTINIQUEAN LEADERS ONLY AT GISCARD'S DINNER ON EVENING DEC. 14. GOF OFFICIALS TELL US PREFECT ORSETTI WILL ATTEND, AND POSSIBLY ONE MARTINIQUEAN LEADER, WHO ACCORDING TO PROTOCOL WOULD BE FORT-DE-FRANCE MAYOR AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTY AIME CESAIRE. HOWEVER, BIOS OF ADDITIONAL PERSONS WHO MIGHT COME INTO CONTACT WITH THE US PRESIDENTIAL PARTY ARE INCLUDED FOR DEPARTMENT'S POSSIBLE USE. THEY ARE LISTED IN ORDER OF LIKELIHOOD OF CONTACT.

PHOTOS AIR POUCHED NOVEMBER 15 ARA/CAR.

1. ORSETTI, CHRISTIAN E. (PREFECT)

CHRISTIAN E. ORSETTI, AGE 51, THE DEPARTMENTAL AND REGIONAL PREFECT OF MARTINIQUE, IS A CAREER OFFICER IN THE FRENCH SERVICE. EDUCATED IN LAW AT MONTPELIER, ORSETTI HAS RISEN STEADILY THROUGH
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MARTIN 00396 151828Z

THE RANKS SINCE 1945 IN A WIDE VARIETY OF POSTS. HE SERVED

IN TUNISIA IN A VARIETY OF JOBS IN THE 1950'S; LATER HE WAS DIRECTOR DE CABINET TO AGRICULTURAL MINISTER PISANI IN THE MID-1960'S. HIS LAST POST BEFORE MARTINIQUE WAS DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS IN THE PARIS PREFECTURE. ORSETTI IS MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN, ONE OF WHOM IS A DUAL US-FRENCH NATIONAL. HE IS ENERGETIC, HIGHLY INTELLIGENT, TRIES HARD, HAS A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR, AND APPEARS WELL-DISPOSED TO THE U.S. IN OUR MANY RECENT CONTACTS WITH HIM. NEITHER HE NOR HIS WIFE SPEAK ENGLISH.

2. CESAIRE, AIME (DEPUTY)

AIME CESAIRE, MAYOR OF FORT-DE-FRANCE, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTY, AND LEADER OF THE LEFTIST PARTI PROGRESSISTE MARTINIQUEAIS, IS MARTINIQUE'S LEADING POLITICIAN. BORN IN 1913 INTO A POOR FAMILY, CESAIRE'S BRILLANCE WON HIM A UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP TO PARIS IN THE MID-30'S. HIS CAREER SINCE RESEMBLES THAT OF MANY FRENCH COLONIAL INTELLECTUALS; HE RETURNED HOME, BECAME A HIGHLY POPULAR PROFESSOR IN THE LOCAL LYCEE, WROTE, BECAME A WELL-KNOWN POET, FOUNDED A LITERARY JOURNAL, ENTERED POLITICS, DRIFTED INTO THE COMMUNIST PARTY DURING THE WAR YEARS AND EVENTUALLY BECAME THE VOICE OF THE UNDERPRIVILEGED IN MARTINIQUE. CESAIRE HAS A SPECULATIVE, POETIC TURN OF MIND; HE WAS PROBABLY NEVER A COMMITTED COMMUNIST. IN THE MID-50'S, HE BROKE WITH THE PARTY FOLLOWING KHRUSHCHEV'S REVELATIONS, THE SOVIET INVASION OF HUNGARY, AND SOVIET SUBORDINATION OF THE INTERESTS OF COLONIAL PEOPLES TO PARTY INTERESTS. AT PRESENT, HE IS WELL LEFT OF CENTER, READY FOR LIMITED COOPERATION WITH COMMUNISTS BUT DISTRUSTFUL OF THEM. HE WAS CLOSELY ALLIED TO MITTERRAND DURING THE LATTER'S 1974 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN. RECENTLY CESAIRE TOLD US HE SEEKS MORE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT VIA DECENTRALIZATION OF THE FRENCH ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM, AND WANTS MORE EFFORTS TOWARDS IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURE, THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, THE INTRODUCTION OF LIGHT INDUSTRY AND OTHER MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE LOT OF MARTINIQUE'S POORER CLASSES. HE REMAINS AN INSPIRATIONAL LEADER, SEEKING A BETTER IDENTIFICATION FOR THE BLACK POPULATION. HE IS FRIENDLY TO AMERICANS AND EVINCES RESPECT FOR US. RECENTLY HE DESCRIBED THE U.S. AS THE "COUNTRY OF THE FUTURE", "NEITHER MARXIST NOR CHRISTIAN". HE SPEAKS LIMITED ENGLISH.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MARTIN 00396 151828Z

3. PETIT, CAMILLE (DEPUTY)

DEPUTY TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, CAMILLE PETIT, AGE 62, WAS EDUCATED IN MARTINIQUE AND COLLEGE ROLLIN IN FRANCE WHERE HE RECEIVED HIS M.D. A PRACTICING PHYSICIAN, PETIT HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL AND MEDICAL CARE. HE WAS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE MARTINIQUEAN

HISTORICAL SOCIETY; MAYOR OF GRANDE-RIVIERE; MEMBER OF THE CONSEIL GENERAL OF FORT-DE-FRANCE; MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL. SINCE 1967 HAS BEEN A GAULLIST DEPUTY TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FROM THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MARTINIQUE. HE IS MARRIED WITH FOUR CHILDREN. HE IS REPORTEDLY FRIENDLY TOWARD AMERICANS, BUT IN RECENT YEARS HE HAS SPENT MUCH TIME IN FRANCE AND THE CONSULATE HAS NOT HAD MUCH CONTACT WITH HIM.

4. SABLE, VICTOR (DEPUTY)

VICTOR SABLE, AGE 63, HAS BEEN A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTY SINCE 1958 AND IS ONE OF MARTINIQUE'S LEADING GAULLIST LEADERS. HIS POLITICAL CAREER DATES FROM 1945 WHEN HE WAS FIRST ELECTED TO THE LOCAL GENERAL COUNCIL. IN 1958, HE WAS FIRST ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AS A RADICAL SOCIALIST AND SINCE HAS REPRESENTED THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT IN PARIS. HE WAS EDUCATED IN LYON AND IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS LAW FACULTY. HIS VIEWS ARE MODERATE. LIKE OTHER LOCAL POLITICIANS, HE FAVORS SOME GREATER DEGREE OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT, BUT HAS HARDLY MADE A SERIOUS EFFORT TO GAIN THIS END. SINCE 1967 HE HAS RUN ON THE GAULLIST TICKET HERE AND HAS MET WITH LITTLE SERIOUS OPPOSITION; HE SEEMS, HOWEVER, TO HAVE NO SERIOUS GAULLIST CONVICTIONS. HE HAS ENJOYED GOOD, ALTHOUGH INTERRUPTED, RELATIONS WITH CONSULATE OFFICERS IN RECENT YEARS. RECENTLY HE HAS BEEN A LEADER PUSHING DEVELOPMENT OF A LARGE TOURIST RESORT IN THE SALINE AREA IN SOUTHERN MARTINIQUE, A PROJECT WHICH HAS BEEN CRITICIZED FOR ITS ALLEGED ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND BECAUSE IT WOULD DEPRIVE THE PUBLIC OF EXCELLENT RECREATIONAL AREAS.

5. MARIE-ANNE, GEORGES MICHEL (SENATOR)

SENATOR MARIE-ANNE WAS BORN IN MARTINIQUE IN 1906. AFTER LYCEE STUDIES IN MARTINIQUE, HE ENTERED THE CUSTOMS SERVICE IN 1925
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MARTIN 00396 151828Z

IN WHICH HE ROSE TO INSPECTEUR PRINCIPAL IN THE 1950'S. HIS POLITICAL CAREER WAS ALMOST A FLUKE, ONLY STARTING WHEN HE RAN SUCCESSFULLY FOR ONE OF MARTINIQUE'S SENATORIAL POSTS IN 1959 AS A MEMBER OF THE ISLAND'S LEFTIST PARTY, THE PARTI PROGRESSISTE MARTINQUAIS. IN THE 1960'S, MARIE-ANNE DRIFTED AWAY FROM THE LEFT, FINALLY BREAKING WITH THE PARTY IN 1961 WHEN THE PROGRESSISTE LEADER, AIME CESAIRE, CAME OUT FOR COMPLETE INTERNAL AUTONOMY FOR THE ISLAND. SINCE THEN, MARIE-ANNE HAS GRAVITATED INTO THE GAULLIST PARTY HERE. HE IS A MODERATE PRAGMATIST IN HIS POLITICAL VIEWS. AT ONE TIME HE APPARENTLY FAVORED INDEPENDENCE FOR MARTINIQUE, BUT HE NOW FAVORAS A SYSTEM WHICH WOULD PERMIT A GREAT DEGREE OF CONTROL OVER INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO CONTINUED FRENCH ASSISTANCE AND AID THROUGH SUCH MEASURES AS MINIMUM WAGES, FAMILY AID AND SOCIAL WELFARE OUTLAYS. AT ONE TIME HE FAVORED MARTINIQUEAN ADHERENCE

TO A BROAD CARIBBEAN GROUP, BUT RECENTLY HE TOLD US HE DOUBTS THAT REGIONAL COOPERATION SCHEMES, EITHER POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC, HAVE ANY CHANCE OF SUCCESS. HE SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH. HE IS UNQUESTIONABLY WELL-DISPOSED TOWARD THE U.S.

6. ELIZE, MAX

MAX ELIZE, MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE MARTINIQUE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, IS AN UP AND COMING MAN IN LOCAL AFFAIRS. BORN IN 1928, HE IS PERHAPS THE MOST ENERGETIC AND INTELLIGENT LEADER IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. ELIZE IS UNIVERSALLY RESPECTED; HE IS PROGRESSIVE IN HIS POLITICAL THINKING AND WHILE HE HAS CLOSE TIES TO CONSERVATIVE BUSINESS INTERESTS, HE IS WELL KNOWN FOR SUPPORTING VARIOUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REFORMS. HE IS MUNDANE, WELL SPOKEN, SPEAKS ENGLISH, HAS OFTEN VISITED THE U.S. AND IS KNOWN TO SUPPORT CLOSER TIES WITH THE U.S. WHILE SUPPORTING MARTINIQUE'S DEPARTMENTAL STATUS, HE ALSO BELIEVES GREATER DEGREE OF LOCAL CONTROL OVER INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE ISLAND IS NECESSARY.

7. COLIN, DANIEL (GENERAL OF DIVISION)

COLIN, THE COMMANDER OF THE ANTILLAS-GUYANE MILITARY DEPARTMENT, IS A CAREER OFFICER WHO HAS SEEN WIDE SERVICE IN FRENCH MILITARY SERVICE. BORN IN 1920, HE GRADUATED IN 1940 FROM ST. CYR INTO THE INFANTRY AND SAW EXTENSIVE COMBAT IN WORLD WAR II

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 05 MARTIN 00396 151828Z

IN AFRICA AND FRANCE WITH THE FOURTH SENEGALESE INFANTRY. HE SERVED SEVERAL COMBAT TOURS IN INDO CHINA AS AN INFANTRY COMMANDER; LATER ASSIGNMENTS TOOK HIM TO MADAGASCAR AND THE CONGO. IN 1966 HE WAS CHIEF OF OVERSEAS BRANCH IN ARMY HEAD-QUARTERS; IN 1969, HE COMMANDED THE 9TH BRIGADE AT ST. MALO. COLIN IS A GRADUATE OF THE CENTRE DES HAUTES ETUDES MILITAIRES AND HOLDS VARIOUS DECORATIONS INCLUDING THE LEGION OF HONOR AND THE CROIX DE GUERRE. HE IS NOT INTERESTED IN POLITICS AND STICKS STRICTLY TO HIS PROFESSION. HE IS AN OPEN APPROACHABLE OFFICER, WITH WHOM THE CONSULATE ENJOYS GOOD RELATIONS. HE IS HIGHLY RESPECTED BY HIS STAFF HERE. COLIN IS MARRIED WITH FOUR CHILDREN. HE SPEAKS A LITTLE ENGLISH.

SHACKLETON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, CHIEFS OF STATE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MARTIN00396
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740330-0866
From: MARTINIQUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741140/aaaabhpi.tel
Line Count: 214
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 244162
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIO REPORTS ON LOCAL FRENCH AND MARTINIQUEAN OFFICIALS
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, PINR, MB, FR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005